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HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS: HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATIONS AND REPORTS
OF SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES

Letter dated 16 May 1995 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of
the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations
addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the statement dated 15 May 1995 of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under item 114 (c) of the preliminary list.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

* A/50/50.



Annex

The Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia has learnt with profound indignation of a terrorist attack against members of the Serbian and Montenegrin national minorities of the Orthodox and Muslim religions in Shkoder, Albania, on 10 May 1995. The entrance doors of the apartments of the families of Burban Ćulić and Milan Brajović were dynamited. At the moment of the explosion, the members of the Ćulić and Brajović families and their guests, including a number of women and children, were in the apartments. The explosion directly endangered their lives and safety and caused great material damage in the two apartments. This terrorist attack has provoked alarm and revolt and aroused justified concern of not only the endangered families but also of members of the Serbian and Montenegrin national minorities and Goranci in Albania.

The explosive devices and mechanisms used and the targets and time of the attack indicate that this was a well-organized and planned terrorist attack, aimed at intimidating members of the Serbian and Montenegrin national minorities in general. This is also evidenced by the fact that the Ćulić and Brajović families were chosen as the targets of the attack, since they are actively involved in the work of the "Morača-Rozafa" cultural association of the members of the Yugoslav national minorities in Albania.

The Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia stresses that this criminal act represents a dangerous escalation of pressure and brutal violence against members of the Serbian and Montenegrin national minorities in Albania. Besides the already known methods of pressure, discrimination and threat against the existence of members of the Yugoslav national minorities in Albania, this terrorist attack is also an open assault on their personal safety. The obvious goal of such terrorist activities is further intimidation of members of the Serbian and Montenegrin national minorities and the prevention of legal and usual cultural activities of the "Morača-Rozafa" association.

The Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs points out that pressure, intimidation, seizure of property and other repressive measures aimed at denying the basic rights of members of the Yugoslav national minorities, breaking up their ethnic cohesion, their denationalization and endangering their existence have been systematically and continually applied in Albania. The latest terrorist attack is the culmination of such a policy and should be most strongly condemned by the international public.

Accordingly, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia calls on the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the European Union, the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and numerous non-governmental organizations dealing with the human and minority rights protection to send a mission to Albania to inspect the alarming human and national rights situation of the Yugoslav national minorities in that country. We expect this mission to establish the real situation and demand from the Albanian authorities that they guarantee and ensure in practice the respect for the basic national and human

rights of Serbs, Montenegrins, Goranci and other members of the Yugoslav national minorities, including the rights to life, free choice of place of residence, private property and free organization for the purpose of cherishing and protecting their national identity.

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expects the Government of Albania to take legal measures against the perpetrators of this terrorist act and guarantee normal life to members of the Serbian, Montenegrin and other Yugoslav national minorities.
